



Meriden. 14. April / 86

Dear Brother. Mr. Cobble has just left me & desired me to
 state to you the result of our interview respecting the propriety
 of having your lectures here on the Slavery question at
 this time. We conclude that the agitation of the subject here
 now must not be productive of good but evil - by an
 agent of the Anti S. S. I have therefore the question
 lightly & however decisively myself & mean to give
 my people the truth on that subject as they are able
 to bear it. The cause is gaining ground here thro'
 the circulation of tracts books & papers & conversations
 & I have no doubt that if meetings were appointed
 for the & free discussion of the subject that it would
 soon flourish where it would destroy the good which
 has already been accomplished -

Mr. Harris says in a letter to me - "There is no need
 of a liberty at present in the public mind that I am
 far from thinking that you would in all cases be the
 result of having Mr. Phelps lecture in our towns - & that
 he has no doubt a public discussion would be fruitful
 among his own people. - Truly & aff. yours Wm. L. G. Pranger